

## **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, autism is a developmental disability that can significantly impair an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal and reciprocal communications; and

**WHEREAS**, autism is now the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the United States and costs the nation over \$35 billion annually; and

**WHEREAS**, autism affects 1 in 88 American children, a 600 percent increase in occurrence over the last 20 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Autism Speaks is the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments, and cure for autism; and

**WHEREAS**, through its mission, Autism Speaks aims to improve the lives of all individuals with autism by taking part in the development and delivery of more effective treatments, increasing acceptance and respect for those with autism, and building support networks for those with autism and their families.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jerry Weiers, Mayor of the City of Glendale, Arizona, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim April, 2013, as

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and encourage Glendale citizens to become aware of how we can each take part in bettering the lives of those affected by autism.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of April, 2013.*